

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY OF THE CITY OF JASPER
JANUARY 25, 2005**

The Board of Public Works and Safety of the City of Jasper, Indiana, met in regular session on Tuesday, January 25, 2005 in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 610 Main Street.

CALL TO ORDER

Board member Victor Knies who presided called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Mayor William J. Schmitt	absent
Board member Victor J. Knies	present
Board member Thomas R. Schmidt	present

Also present were Police Chief Richard Gunselman, Street Commissioner Raymond Eckerle, City Engineer Chad Hurm, Personnel/Safety Director Charles Schneider, Fire Chief Kenneth Hochgesang, Building Commissioner David Seger, City Attorney Sandra Hemmerlein and Clerk-Treasurer Juanita Boehm.

Clerk-Treasurer Juanita Boehm announced that a majority of the board members must be present for a quorum. Two of the three board members were present, which constitutes a majority; therefore, there was a quorum for the meeting. Clerk-Treasurer Boehm also announced that on December 8, 2004 Mayor Schmitt designated Victor Knies to be the presiding officer for this meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Victor Knies invited all present to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The board members examined the minutes of the regular meeting held on January 11, 2005. A **motion** was made by Thomas Schmidt and seconded by Victor Knies to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried 2-0.

MULTI-USE PATH PLAN

Mike Feltz, representative of Clark Dietz Engineers, reported on the next stage of the Multi-Use Path project for the City of Jasper and presented a map outlining the various phases. He stated that he had met with Mayor Schmitt, Building Commissioner David Seger and City Engineer Chad Hurm to discuss the second phase of the path and that it had been decided to begin the next stage of the path at the north end of the Riverwalk and to proceed to the Municipal Golf Course. Feltz also stated that a Transportation Enhancement Grant application for one million dollars will be submitted to the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) for the second phase.

SPEED LIMIT – THIRD AVENUE

Police Chief Richard Gunselman reported that he is still studying the request from Mike Verkamp, Crestwood Drive, to consider lowering the speed limit on Third Avenue by Gun Club Road.

CLOTHING ALLOWANCE – POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Chief Richard Gunselman requested increasing the annual clothing allowance from \$350 to \$400 for the police chief and the two detectives.

On **motion** by Thomas Schmidt and seconded by Victor Knies, approval was given to increase the annual clothing allowance for the police chief and two detectives from \$350 to \$400. **Motion** passed 2-0.

SAFETY VESTS – POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Chief Richard Gunselman stated that he would be attending a police equipment vendor's conference next week and said four safety vests need to be replaced. He stated that the vests usually cost between \$500 and \$600 each and that some grant money, which provides up to half the cost, could be obtained. Gunselman said he would seek quotes but wanted permission to purchase four vests at the show if a good price was available.

On **motion** by Thomas Schmidt and seconded by Victor Knies, approval was given to permit the police chief to purchase four safety vests at the vendor's conference if a good price was available. **Motion** passed 2-0.

ANTI-ICING – DE-ICING PROGRAM

Because there was a recent winter storm, Street Commissioner Raymond Eckerle thought it would be an appropriate time to report on the anti-icing/de-icing program used by the street department. Eckerle calculated that at least \$6,000 was saved in time and material over the past weekend because the de-ice additive known as beet juice that is mixed with salt was spread onto the streets rather than just spreading salt.

SURPLUS PROPERTY

City Attorney Sandra Hemmerlein presented a map of where the former Gas and Water Administration building and property were located [Lot 7]. She explained that when the property was transferred, a 25 foot by 240 foot strip of land was retained by the City in order to prevent an adjoining landowner [Lot 13] from being landlocked. Hemmerlein said the owner of Lot 13 has since made arrangements with the owner of Lot 7 which would then allow the owner of Lot 13 access to its property. Therefore, there is no longer any reason for the City to retain the 25 foot tract. Hemmerlein also said the owner of Lot 13 has signed an acknowledgement stating it is okay for the City to sell the land. Street Commissioner Raymond Eckerle said the area is weedy and isolated and would be costly to maintain. Hemmerlein then asked the board members to declare the city-owned tract as surplus and dispose of the property. Hemmerlein said IC 36-1-11-5 for disposing of property could apply to this situation. Hemmerlein calculated that the property was under \$2,000 in value and that a notice would be published in the paper and that certified letters would be sent to the four abutting property owners.

A **motion** was made by Thomas Schmidt and seconded by Victor Knies to declare the city-owned 25 foot by 240 foot tract of land as surplus and sell the land because the best use of the tract would be to an abutting landowner and the cost to the public of maintaining the tract equals or exceeds the estimated fair market value of the tract. **Motion** passed 2-0.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the board, a **motion** was made by Thomas Schmidt and seconded by Victor Knies to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 2-0 and the meeting adjourned at 8:31 a.m.

Victor J. Knies
Presiding Officer

Attest:

Juanita S. Boehm, Clerk-Treasurer

Cynthia Kluemper, Recording Secretary